



## Explore Attitudes About Nontraditional Careers

**Grades:** 9-12  
**Time:** One Class Period

**Description:** This activity will give high school students an opportunity to explore their attitudes about nontraditional careers. They will also be given time to discuss why they feel as they do.

### Objective

- Students will be able to assess their perceptions and attitudes about nontraditional careers.

**Directions:** Announce to the students that you are going to make some statements and that you want their opinions. Inform them that there are no right or wrong answers. Demonstrate how students are to respond to the statements as follows:

- If the student **agrees** with a statement, they should put their **thumbs up**.
- If the student **disagrees** with a statement, they should put their **thumbs down**.

After students have responded to each statement, discuss with them the questions that accompany the statements.

1. Money is the only reason that women work outside the home.

Question: What are some other reasons why women or men work outside the home?

2. Most women are not smart enough to be engineers.

Questions: Do any of you know a young woman who doesn't have the ability to be an engineer? Do you know a young man who doesn't have the ability to be an engineer? How about a young woman or man who has the ability, but not the interest?

3. Most boys do not have the finger coordination to do data entry on a computer.

4. Most women who work in machine shops are unfeminine.

Question: What relation does a career choice have to an individual's femininity or masculinity?

5. All adult women should be prepared to support themselves financially.

Question: Why should everyone be able to support themselves?

Adapted from *Career Connection*, Region V, Mineral Area College, Park Hill, Missouri.